



Town of Darien

David Knauf, MPH, MS, RS

Director of Health
e-mail: dknauf@darienct.gov

Barrington Bogle, MPH, RS, CHES
Assistant Director of Health
e-mail: bbogle@darienct.gov

Restaurant Ratings

When dining in one of Darien's fine restaurants, be on the lookout for the most recent "**RATING**" as given by Health Department staff during the most recent inspection of the facility. This is a program designed to provide the public with some basic information about the sanitary conditions observed in the facility.

Ratings are provided by the Department to the food service establishment with the inspection report during each inspection and are based on the following factors: the absence/presence of "Critical Violations" that are likely to cause food borne illness, the absence/presence of chronic violations as noted in past inspections, the facility inspection history and efforts to correct previously noted violations, the training and demonstrable knowledge of food service personnel, and the overall sanitary conditions in the facility at the time of inspection.

The Ratings are very simple and apply to those facilities that prepare "potentially hazardous" food:

Good: A food service establishment shall receive a Good Rating when safe food handling practices with no critical violations were observed at the time of inspection and the facility was found to be in considerable compliance with the factors outlined above.

Fair: A food service establishment shall receive a Fair Rating when the minimum requirements of the Connecticut Public Health Code were met at the time of inspection but improvements were needed in the food handling practices of food service personnel and the factors outlined above.

Poor: A food service establishment shall receive a Poor Rating when chronic or critical violations that are likely to cause food borne illness were evident at the time of inspection, or the facility received a score below eighty (80) or had one (1) or more four (4) point demerit items in violation, or was not in compliance with the factors outlined above.

All food service establishments are required to post their most current Rating in a conspicuous location clearly visible to the public and remain posted until the next scheduled inspection. If the owner or Qualified Food Operator (QFO), requests a reinspection as described below, the Rating does not have to be posted until the requested reinspection is completed.

The owner or Qualified Food Operator of any food service establishment may at any time request an inspection for the purpose of improving the score or the Rating of the facility. This request must be in writing and include a signed statement itemizing the corrective measures that have been taken. Upon receipt, the Health Department shall conduct a complete reinspection and issue a new Rating as appropriate.

So, if you don't see a RATING posted when you are out to dinner in Darien, ask where it is.....and let us know!